

(Dublin, October 12. 1871

Dear Mr May

On coming into town this morning as I do every day except Sunday, I found your welcome letter announcing Mrs May's arrival. You have not told me a word too many. I venture to doubt whether either of your brothers feels more warmly interested in all that concerns you than I do. Poor old Mr Emerson, I thought it very touching that his ancient heart should still beat so warmly as to want to see Mrs May before she had time to take her bonnet off. It is a strong testimony to her kind self. While she was here every one liked her & her visit gave us very great pleasure. What a Paradise of Dainties Delights you will have in the thousand stories she has to tell of her rich & varied experiences.

I had a letter from Mr Goddard yesterday thanking me for sending on the letters that were returned to me from Cork via the Dead Letter Office - & asking me to have enquiries made at the Imperial Hotel, Cork, respecting the Box of Letters. Accordingly I wrote a line letter to my cousin Mr Liddell & have begged him to call at the Hotel which I doubt not he will do.

I allowed Alfred to read your letter & think he glad if he will take your cautions about his health. He is apparently quite restored & very busy in the office.

He is an enthusiastic advocate for Home Rule, & is the trusted
Hon. Sec. to the Association. I have no sympathy in this project
nor do I think any government we could obtain if we were
would be as good for the country as the one we have. This
island is occupied by different races with differences so great
that they will take ages to smooth down. The Catholic Irish
& the Protestants are hostile to the Empire & no system of
Home Rule could be carried on without perpetual quarrels
with the Imperial Government. I send you an article from
the Pall Mall Gazette that in my opinion tells the truth.

What a terrible story this is that has reached us by tele-
graph from Chicago. I wish to know how our friends S. H. & Elizabeth
have fared & whether if they are injured anything can be
done to help them.

As to the Washington picture I am glad my brother Thomas
packed it so well that it arrived safely. I bought it at an auction
shortly before I sailed for W. R. I thought it very good & so did some
better judges than I am. In America I saw some Chinese paintings
on glass but not at all equal to this one. No one I guess knows this
one was executed. I wd be glad to hear any opinions you can
may happen to hear. The frame is very old so that I wd judge
the picture is not less than 60 years done. It belonged to "a gentleman"

Yours ever affectionately Rich^d D Webb